

we preserve Americans' privacy and civil liberties in our efforts to keep America safe from terrorist attacks.

Mr. Speaker, this bill in its totality provides adequate funding for all our military personnel and their families. Moreover, it includes several necessary reforms to help eliminate the scourge of sexual assault in the military. I was proud to work with my colleagues on the Subcommittee to fully fund the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response programs at \$157 million and add an additional \$25 million above the request to implement a Sexual Assault Special Victims Program. The bill also reaffirms numerous provisions that were included in the FY 2014 National Defense Authorization Act, including those increasing penalties for sexual assault, requiring trial by court-martial for such offenses, and limiting convening authority discretion regarding court-martial findings and sentencing.

Congress has a duty to take care of our men and women in uniform and as a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, I urge my colleagues to support the underlying legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 150th anniversary of St. Matthew Catholic Church in San Mateo, California. Since its founding in 1863 the buildings, parishioners and pastors have changed, but the church has always been a place for comfort, solace, community and friendship for everyone.

A century and a half ago, Archbishop Alemany sent Father Denis Dempsey to San Mateo to establish the first parish in the county. A small wooden-steeple church was built on the corner of Third Avenue and A Street—today Ellsworth Avenue—on a piece of land donated by Charles B. Polhemus, an investor in the San Francisco—San Jose Railroad. Father Dempsey was the pastor for 18 years and earned the admiration and love of his parishioners. It is said that his funeral mass was attended by local officials and dignitaries from throughout the state.

Sadly, the next pastor, Father William Bowman, only had a tenure of seven months before he passed away. He was followed by Father Peter Birmingham who presided for three years until he was transferred to San Francisco. Longevity was the signature of the fourth pastor, Father Timothy Callaghan. He served St. Matthew Church for 53 years. During his tenure, a parish cemetery was established and a new church was built. The congregation was growing and the threat of a fire destroying the old wooden church led to a fire resistant brick church on Ellsworth between Second and Third Avenues. The dedicating mass was held in September of 1900. Father Callaghan was elevated to Right Reverend and witnessed continual growth of the parish.

Father Henry J. Lyne became the fifth pastor and established a parish school in 1931. Seven Sisters of the Holy Cross taught 140 students in the first year. He is credited with

starting Catholic formal education in the Archdiocese of San Francisco on the peninsula. In 1947, Pope Pius XII appointed him a Domestic Prelate with the title Monsignor.

Father Edward J. Meagher, the sixth pastor, saw unprecedented growth of the Catholic population after World War II. In 1952, total enrollment from Kindergarten to the 8th grade had grown to 861. Father Meagher raised funds to build an independent parish in Shoreview which was named St. Timothy as a tribute to Monsignor Timothy Callaghan. Soon after that, the Western portion of St. Matthew parish was detached with the establishment of Bartholomew parish. Father Meagher's successor, Father Bernard C. Cronin, oversaw the building of a new St. Matthew Church and Rectory at Ninth Avenue and El Camino Real which opened in May 1966. The downtown church also remained open. Father Cronin was elevated to Right Reverend Monsignor in 1972.

In 1979, Father James Ward, a graduate of St. Matthew School, class of 1937, became its eighth pastor. Father James Ward was devoted to the school and the students. During his tenure, the downtown church was demolished after suffering seismic damage. He and the archdiocese fought hard, yet unsuccessfully, for the vacated property that was eventually leased to Walgreen Drug. Father Ward died from a leg infection in 1995. Monsignor James McKay succeeded him and oversaw fundamental renovations of the newer church at El Camino Real and Ninth Avenue that are still in place today.

In 2004, the tenth and current pastor replaced Monsignor McKay. Father Anthony McGuire now oversees the St. Matthew parish of 2,500 and is credited with growing the diverse parish and attracting an ever increasing number of Hispanic and Asian families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor the rich history of St. Matthew Church in San Mateo which has been a place of spiritual and social growth for thousands of families for 150 years.

OPENING OF THE NEW PAUL LAWRENCE DUNBAR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the opening of the new Paul Laurence Dunbar Senior High School in the District of Columbia. Dunbar High School was the first public high school for African Americans in the United States, and has educated students in the District of Columbia for more than 140 years.

Dunbar started in a church basement and had no formal home for its first 20 years. The new Dunbar High School is a green, state-of-the-art building that will inspire the new strides the school is making. Dunbar today is a neighborhood high school in a tough D.C. neighborhood, unlike the magnet school that attracted students from across the city to come to a high school known for its college preparatory curriculum. However, the school's rich history is an inspiration to the leaders of the school, students, and parents today.

Dunbar was instrumental in making the District of Columbia a bulwark of education for almost a century, despite its segregated school system until the District of Columbia became one of the six Brown v. Board of Education cases. Children from all of the city's neighborhoods came to Dunbar, drawn by its storied reputation. That reputation was reinforced by Dunbar's record of graduating more distinguished African Americans than any high school in the country. Among them were Edward Brooke, the first black popularly elected United States Senator; Robert C. Weaver, the first black Cabinet member; Benjamin O. Davis, the first black general; Wesley Brown, the first black graduate of the Naval Academy; Charles R. Drew, the discoverer of blood plasma; and Mary Jane Patterson, the first African American to achieve a college degree. Dunbar also drew teachers with advanced degrees who would have been college professors, but for segregation. The school's reputation for excellence, in turn, attracted the most prominent colleges and universities annually to visit Dunbar to recruit students. Dunbar is facing its challenge with unflinching energy, but its new facility will ease the way, and its proud history will guide Dunbar to new accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the opening of the new Paul Laurence Dunbar High School on August 19, 2013, and in wishing the school success in continuing its proud legacy in the District of Columbia.

HONOR FLIGHT NORTHERN COLORADO

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished veterans of Honor Flight Northern Colorado as they make their 10th trip to Washington, D.C. to visit the memorials that stand in our nation's capital. This group includes veterans from multiple wars and different generations, linked together by their service to our nation.

Founded in 2005, The Honor Flight program was originally formed to honor veterans of WWII but has since expanded to include those who have served in all other American engagements. This program provides an opportunity for veterans to fly to Washington, D.C. free of cost to them and their families so that they may visit the national memorials dedicated to their service. Of the 122 veterans visiting with its next flight; 51 will have served in WWII, 62 in Korea, and 9 in other conflicts.

Though these memorials will honor our veterans' service for centuries to come, no statue or monument can truly express the level of gratitude we hold for those who courageously risked their life to preserve our inherent rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We stand here today as a nation of laws, freedom, and liberty because our veterans answered the call of duty when our country needed them the most. Today we honor those who risked their lives to secure the blessings endowed by our Creator for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, Please join me in honoring Donald Benson, Joe Blossom, Hobert Bodkins, Robert Bueker, George Carlson, Wayne